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Award Number: NAGW-4383**Principal Investigator:** Martin Frank**Institution:** American Physiological Society
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814-3991**Project Title:** APS Conference on Understanding the Biological Clock: From
Genetics to Physiology
July 8-12, 1995, Hanover, NH**Final Project Report**

The American Physiological Society (APS) held a Conference entitled, "Understanding the Biological Clock: From Genetics to Physiology" from July 8-12, 1995 at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire. The Conference was organized by Jay C. Dunlap, Jennifer J. Loros, and Heinz Valtin. The Conference was designed to take advantage of the fusion of two intellectually dominant but heretofore separate lines of clock research, vertebrate physiology and invertebrate and microbial genetics. The APS Conference attracted 251 scientists, 68 of whom were students. In addition to the excellent speaker program organized by Dunlap and Loros, the attendees also submitted 93 volunteer abstracts that were programmed in poster sessions. Thirty-four percent of the submitted abstracts were first authored by a female student or scientist.

The funds provided by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration were used to recognize the efforts of four students whose abstracts were judged to be the best student presentations. In addition, the funds were used to partially defray the expenses of the invited speakers who served as the faculty for the APS Conference.

Overall, the Conference attendees were enthusiastic about the Conference, rating it as one of the most comprehensive meetings on the topic of biological clocks.

Submitted by: *Martin Frank*

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1995 APS Conference Report

Understanding the Biological Clock: From Genetics to Physiology

Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, served as the venue for APS' first 1995 conference, "Understanding the Biological Clock: From Genetics to Physiology." The conference, held July 8-12, was organized by APS members Jay C. Dunlap, Jennifer J. Loros, and Heinz Valtin. The Conference was designed to take advantage of the fusion of two intellectually dominant but heretofore separate lines of clock research, vertebrate physiology and invertebrate and microbial genetics. As an outgrowth of this conference, the organizers hope to create a reference source of lasting value

APS Conference Registration

Category	Number
Member	15
Nonmember	97
Retired	3
Student	68
Guest	12
Invited Speaker	56
Total	251

that will provide a snapshot of the state of knowledge, both factual and contextual, concerning biological timing.

The conference started with an evening plenary lecture presented by Michael Rosbash, Brandeis University, and an opening reception. On each of the subsequent evenings, attendees were

able to enjoy plenary lectures presented by Michael Menaker, University of Virginia; Robert Moore, University of Pittsburgh; and J. Woodland Hastings, Harvard University. Each day featured a morning symposium and an afternoon poster session with ample time for discussion of research by the attendees.

Ninety-three abstracts were submitted and programmed as poster presentations for the conference; 34% or 32 of the abstracts listed women as the first author. Three abstracts (3.2%) were submitted by scientists working in government laboratories and one abstract was submitted from investigators in industry. The international nature of the field of biological clocks was reflected in the fact that twenty-seven

abstracts (29%) were submitted by scientists working in laboratories outside the Americas. The volunteered abstracts were submitted by scientists working in 23 different departments including 24 abstracts (25.8%) from biological sciences departments, 14 abstracts (15%) from psychology, and 7 abstracts (7.5%) from physiology.

The scientific abstracts submitted by students were judged for scientific excellence, and the four best abstracts were selected for awards consisting of a \$500 check, complimentary registration, and a certificate. Awards were presented by the organizers to Brian Prendergast, University of California, Berkeley; James Comolli, Harvard



Jay C. Dunlap and Jennifer J. Loros with the APS Student Award recipients at the APS Conference, Hanover, NH.

University; Yi Liu, Vanderbilt University; and Namni Goel, University of Michigan, during the concluding banquet of the conference.

The Society also continued its efforts to increase the participation of underrepresented minority students in APS meetings by providing support for two students to attend the conference. Renee Markham, Xavier University of Louisiana, and Jose Paulo Castro, St. John's University, received travel fellowships funded by the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive, and Kidney Diseases, which enabled them to attend and participate in the meeting.

A total of 251 scientists, both invited and paid registrants, attended the conference. Government scientists accounted for 3.5% (9) of the registrants, industry-based scientists for 2.8% (7) of the registrants, and non-American scientists for 16.3% (41) of the registrants (see table for a breakdown of registrants by category).

The scientific success of the conference was clearly a result of the efforts of the organizers Dunlap and Loros. In addition, the invited speakers, abstract presenters, and attendees provided the opportunity for the fruitful discussions that make a meeting a success. The Society also gratefully acknowledges the contributions received in support of the conference from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the NSF, and Groupe de Recherche Servier, France.



APS Conference attendees discuss the work of a poster presenter.